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THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST--22 DECEMBER 1961

1. CONGO:

A. GULLION, IN A "FIRST-TAKE" EVALUATION, BELIEVES THE HARD-WON TSHOMBE-ADOULA ACCORD, WHILE ADMITTEDLY PRECARIOUS, REPRESENTS A MILESTONE IN OUR CONGO POLICY. HE FEELS TSHOMBE WILL FIND IT HARD TO GET OUT FROM UNDER AND STILL RETAIN CREDENCE WITH HIS WESTERN SUPPORTERS.

B. TSHOMBE'S REMARKS ON HIS RETURN TO ELISABETHVILLE WERE FAR FROM ENCOURAGING. HE DEPRECATED THE TALKS AND INDICATED HE CONSIDERED THE AGREEMENT EFFECTIVE ONLY AFTER "RATIFICATION" BY HIS GOVERNMENT WHICH "CANNOT BE DONE FOR AT LEAST TEN DAYS."

C. DESPITE EFFORTS BY BOTH UN AND KATANGAN LEADERS TO MAINTAIN A DE FACTO CEASE-FIRE IN ELISABETHVILLE, THE SECURITY SITUATION THERE REMAINS PRECARIOUS.

D. THIS MORNING'S PRESS REPORTS INDICATE THE KATANGA GOVERNMENT MAY ALREADY BE LAYING THE GROUNDWORK FOR REJECTING THE KITONA ACCORD. TSHOMBE'S CABINET IS BALKY AND A KATANGA COMMUNIQUE STATES "NO DOCUMENT BINDING KATANGA WAS SIGNED AT KITONA" SINCE TSHOMBE HAD NO PARLIAMENTARY MANDATE.

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2. LAOS:

PREPARATIONS FOR NEXT WEDNESDAY'S THREE PRINCE'S MEETING AT VIENTIANE ARE STALLED OVER SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS AND CONSIDERATION IS BEING GIVEN TO THEIR MEETING IN GENEVA.

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3. GOA AFTERMATH:

A. AMBASSADOR ELBRICK EXPECTS PORTUGAL TO ANNOUNCE IMPORTANT CHANGES IN FOREIGN POLICY WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

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B. PAKISTAN AND THAILAND HAVE REACTED SHARPLY. THE PAKISTAN PRESS IS CONCERNED OVER A SIMILAR FATE FOR KASHMIR AND QUESTIONS THE VALUE OF MILITARY ALLIANCES. ROUNTREE FEELS THE INDIAN ACTION WILL FEED EXTREMIST VOICES, ESPECIALLY ON KASHMIR.

IN BANGKOK, SARIT SEEMS PARTICULARLY UPSET OVER GOA AND BITTERLY CRITICAL OF NEHRU.

C. EXTENSIVE CHINESE COMMUNIST PRESS COVERAGE ON GOA FAILS TO MENTION EITHER HONG KONG OR MACAO. THE CONSUL GENERAL SEES IN THIS AN ABSENCE OF CHINESE INTENT TO MOVE AGAINST THEM OR TO MANUFACTURE A PRETEXT TO DO SO.

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4. INDONESIA-WEST NEW GUINEA:

A. THE DISPUTANTS REMAIN FAR APART ON THEIR TERMS FOR NEGOTIATION. THE DUTCH INSIST ON A THIRD-PARTY "WITNESS" FOR ANY DISCUSSIONS WHILE THE INDONESIANS DEMAND BILATERAL TALKS. BOTH SIDES HOLD TO THEIR PREVIOUS POSITIONS ON NATIVE SELF-DETERMINATION.

B. THE INDIAN AMBASSADOR HAS INFORMED JONES THAT HIS CHINESE COMMUNIST AND SOVIET COLLEAGUES SEPARATELY TOLD HIM THEIR COUNTRIES WOULD IMMEDIATELY SUPPLY ARMS IF INDONESIA ATTACKS WEST NEW GUINEA.

C. DJUANDA AGAIN APPEALS TO JONES FOR HELP TO BRING ABOUT PROGRESS TOWARDS A PEACEFUL SOLUTION.

5. NOTES:

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B. THE ELECTION OF MODERATE-CONSERVATE QUDSI AS SYRIAN PRESIDENT IS NOW COUNTERBALANCED BY HIS NAMING MARUF AL-DAWALIBI, AN EXTREME ANTI-WESTERN ARAB NATIONALIST AND ADVOCATE OF CLOSE BLOC RELATIONS, AS PREMIER-DESIGNATE.

C. AMBASSADOR RUSSELL BELIEVES THE DRAFT OF NKRUMAH'S VOLTA PROJECT SPEECH FALLS SHORT OF PROMISED ASSURANCES AND AS IT STANDS MAY BE REGARDED BY OUR PRESS AS A GESTURE OF INGRATITUDE AND ILL-WILL.

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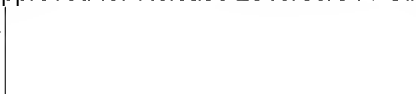
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D. WATCH COMMITTEE CONCLUSION ON BERLIN IS THAT CONTINUED COMMUNIST HARASSMENTS MAY BE EXPECTED. THESE MAY EVEN EXTEND TO TEMPORARY DISRUPTION OF AUTOBAHN TRAFFIC ON ONE OR ANOTHER PRETEXT. THE RECENT AUGMENTATION OF FIGHTER AIRCRAFT IN EAST GERMANY--AND IN HUNGARY AND BULGARIA--WILL IMPROVE THE COMMUNIST MILITARY POSITION IN EASTERN EUROPE. PRESENT COMMUNIST MILITARY ACTIVITY, HOWEVER, DOES NOT SUGGEST THAT THE COMMUNISTS EXPECT TO RISK SERIOUS MILITARY CONFRONTATION IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE.

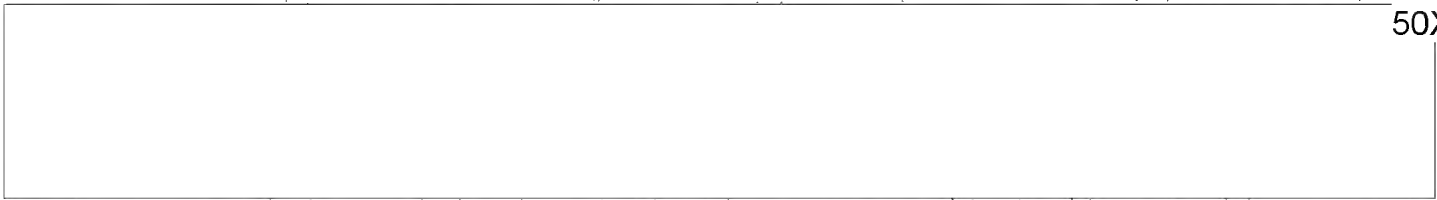
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